

tion, and by many of you as individuals, that the State offer you further help to relieve you of pressing local tax difficulties.

While the General Assembly deliberately gave the local governments a free hand in how the money was to be used, it is gratifying to me to note that most of the additional funds are being used for the improvement of public education, and primarily to increase the salaries of our school teachers

In brief and in summation, let me say also that this Administration is aware that, under our system of government, counties are divisions of, and municipalities the creation of, the State government. Under this system, we recognize our ultimate responsibility for the prosperity and well-being of the subdivisions. And while we believe the people prosper most, and find most happiness in, a large measure of local autonomy, we at the State level are ready and willing to give assistance to local governments when such assistance is wanted and needed.

ADDRESS, MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

OCEAN CITY

June 12, 1962

I am delighted to be here again this year to attend another of the annual conferences of this organization of Maryland municipalities. Your choice for a theme for this 1962 Conference is indeed an appropriate one. A satisfactory solution to the intricate problems of state and local governments is one of the most pressing needs of our times. I congratulate the Maryland Municipal League on its awareness of the problem and on its willingness to attack it.

The fiscal interrelationship of state and local government, while only one aspect of the broader problem, is of prime concern to us. And while I have no handy solutions to offer you, I am pleased to have this opportunity to discuss it with you here at your annual meeting. The General Assembly at its regular session this year gave recognition to the problem and proposed that a study be made to find the proper approach and solution to the complicated financial interrelationships of the State and its subdivisions. A resolution, adopted by both Houses and signed by me as Governor, noted that it was a matter of concern to governments at both levels. It declared